notice. These cases interalia include, misuse of Value Based Advance Licneces (VBAL) and Quantity Based Advance Licences (QBAL), wrongful availment of MODVAT under VBAL, import of goods not covered by the relevant Customs notifications, mis-declaration of value of export and import goods and export of inferior of junk materials. According to Ministry of Finance, since many cases are still at various stages of investigation/ adjudication, the loss suffered by the Government as a result of such misuse cannot be quantified.

Moreover, allegation of diversion of export consignments meant for Russia to third country destinations have also come to light.

Various measures have been taken by the Government to plug the loopholes and to prevent such misuse. These measures, interalia, include requirement by exporters to discharge export obligations interms of value and quantity under VBAL, modification of sensitive list, imposition of additioal customs duty for items importe under VBAL and QBAL, computation of CIF value of inputs with respect to their international prices, streamlining the procedure of verification for availing MODVAT, etc. VBAL scheme has also been discontinued with effect from 1st April, 1997 in the new Exim Policy.

The Government has taken effective measures to prevent diversion of export consignments meant for Russia and also impressed upon the Russian side to give rupee allocation only to experienced Russian entities to avoid possibilities of any irregularity in this regard. Due to various steps taken, no specific report on switching has been received in the last few months. An example of drastic reduction in this practice can be seen in the case of cashew, which was reported to have been largely diverted to third countires earlier, the export of cashew from India to Russia having come down from Rs. 260.3 crores during April-February 1995-96 to Rs. 5.7 crores during April-February 1996-97.

Action on CBI report on the Racket of keeping the CT Scan Machines out of order in Government Hospitals

*436. SHRI M.D. SALIM: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state what steps Government have taken on the CBI report about the racket behind keeping the CT scan machines of the major hospitals out of order to give business to private diagnostic centres with whom the doctors of Government hospitals have arrangements for getting commissions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE(SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP): Detailed instructions have been issued to all the Central Government hospitals to, inter-alia, have a check done on the down time of hospital equipment, fix responsibility for getting the repairs attended to promptly, review the outcome on a weekly basis and to take a number of related measures to improve the system for maintenance and repair of equipments. Government of NCT of Delhi has also been advised similarly. Meanwhile the High Court of Delhi is also hearing a public interest litigation on the same subject. The reason for down-time of each of the quipment was mainly due to non-availability of spares and special oomponents. In some cases, the equipment has become obsolete and is awaiting condemnation.

In order to instil a sense of accountability, orders have been given to the Central Government hospitals to display the position about major non-functional equipments so that there is pressure to set right such machines at an early date.

The CBI report had inter-alia expected that the study would help in formulating measures to ensure that there was uniformity in service/repair charges in

Government hospitals. However, no specific instance of deliberate connivance of hospital staff had been given.

कॉफी उत्पादन हेतु लक्ष्य

437. **श्री मोहिन्दर सिंह कल्याण:** क्या **वाणिज्य** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार ने नौवीं योजना के दौरान कॉफी उत्पादन के लिए कोई लक्ष्य निर्धारित किये हैं;

(ख) यदि हां, तो ततसंबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं; और

(घ) सरकार देश में कॉफी का उत्पादन बढ़ाने के लिए क्या उपाय कर रही है?

वाणिज्य मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री बोल्ला बुल्ली रामैया): (क) से (ग) 9वीं पंचवर्षीय योजना अवधि के दौरान कॉफी उत्पादन के लक्ष्य को सरकार द्वारा अभी अन्तिम रूप दिया जाना है। तथापि, योजना अवधि के दौरान कॉफी बोर्ड द्वारा प्रस्तावित लक्ष्य नीचे दिए गए हैं:—

वर्ष	उत्पादन लक्ष्य (मी॰ टन)
1997-98	2,25,000
1998-99	2,40,000
1999-00	2,60,000
2001-01	2,80,000
2001-02	3,00,000

(घ) कॉफी के उत्पादन को बढ़ाने के लिए काफी बोर्ड गहन कृषि के उद्देश्य से अनेक योजना-कार्यक्रम और विकासात्मक कार्यकलाप, पुनर्रोपण कार्यक्रम एवं गुणवत्ता सुधार कार्यक्रम चलाने के अलावा निम्नलिखित रूपों में भी आवश्यक समर्थन प्रदान करता रहा है: (क) कृषि अनुसंधान (ख) विस्तार (ग) ऋण और वित्त की व्यवस्था तथा अन्य आवश्यक समर्थन जैसे पौध-रोपण के उद्देश्य से कॉफी बीज की सप्लाई आदि।

Misuse of Advance Licences

438. SHRI N. GIRI PRASAD:
SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn towards the findings of the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) detecting large scale misuse of advance licences costing exchequer Rs. 14,000 crore; and

(b) if so, the details and the action taken against the defaulting licence holders?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULI RAMAIAH): (a) and (b) The Comptroller and Auditor General of India, in its Report for the year ended 31.3.95 (No. 4 of 1996) Union Government (Revenue Receipt—Indirect Taxes) relating the Advance Licensing Scheme, had, inter-alia, mentioned that the amount of Customs Duty foregone in respect of imports made against Quantity Based and Value Based Advance Licences during the financial years 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95 was Rs. 14,668.80 Crores which was primarily on account of non-fulfilment of export obligation on Advance Licences issued during the said period. On an examination of these figures, it was however, found that the above figures did not reflect the correct position for the period 1990-91 to 1994-95 as these figures only indicate the maximum CIF value of imports which could have taken place under the scheme and did not taken into account the actual imports made during the above said period.

These figures have since been revised and submitted to the C&AG. The detailed position for the period 1990-91 to 1994-95 regarding the total number of licences issued, FOB value of export obligation imposed on the licence, CIF value of imports as well as the total